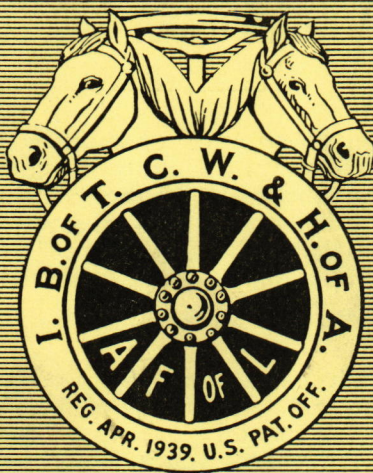


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JANUARY, 1941

Official Magazine
**INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD
TEAMSTERS - CHAUFFEURS
WAREHOUSEMEN & HELPERS
of AMERICA**



BEGINNING the first of the New Year try and amend your by-laws making your initiation fee reasonable. The convention of the International Union, in order to discourage high initiation fees, placed a ten per cent levy on all initiation fees when they run over and above twenty-five dollars.

— • —

THE PURPOSE of Organized Labor is to organize men into unions. The man seeking membership, just having got a job, and out of work for some time, and having a family and willing and able to work at our craft, should be encouraged into membership, instead of closing the doors against him. Taxing such an individual an enormous amount in initiation fees smells badly to the public.

— • —

YES, I know there are benefits in the union which the union has made and built up, but return can be made by the individual by charging reasonable dues. Lately the public press has been filled up with the statement from the First Lady of the Land, who found that the initiation fee in a certain trade was so high (\$500.00) that it was utterly impossible for any ordinary man to become a member. The Government was asked to investigate. Unless we clean our own house and run it within the law, you can take it from me the government, state and national, will clean house for us, and in cleaning house they will clean up some of the boys who believe they are immune from investigation. When federal or state agencies begin to look into the affairs of some unions they find more than they are looking for.

— • —

WHY NOT sit down on the first day of January and look over your life for the past year? Every institution of progress takes stock of its resources, its assets, its failures or its accomplishments around the first of January. If you have made mistakes—and we are all human, some of us a little more human than others—then profit by these mistakes and pledge yourself to avoid making the same mistakes during the year 1941.

— • —

I HAVE continuously advocated care of one's health. If you abuse an animal or if you abuse a machine made of metal, that abuse will tell in time. If you abuse yourself mentally by lack of sleep or overindulgence in anything, you can take it from me you will pay the price as time goes on.

— • —

WHY NOT decide to look after your teeth and your eyes, or have a general examination once a year? It may cost you five dollars but even if there is nothing wrong with you it is money well spent. Just check up on yourself physically and financially.

● OFFICIAL MAGAZINE ●

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Daniel J. Tobin, Editor

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Report of Delegates Represent- ing International Brotherhood of Teamsters to Convention of the American Federation of Labor November 18-28, 1940

In accordance with the laws of the
International Brotherhood of Team-
sters, we, your delegates to the con-
vention of the American Federation
of Labor, submit the following report:

The convention was called to order
on Monday morning, November 18,
1940, in the Municipal Auditorium,
New Orleans, Louisiana, at ten o'clock
by John C. Pooley, Chairman of the
Convention Committee. Preceding the
opening of the convention a band com-
posed of members of the American
Federation of Musicians, presented a
musical program and entertainment.
As the delegates were seated the band
played "God Bless America," "Amer-
ica," "Dixie," and the "Star-Spangled
Banner." The invocation or prayer
was offered by the Rev. Raymond
Carra. Chairman Pooley welcomed the
delegates in the name of the Central
Labor Union and introduced Mr. Steve
Quarles, President of the Central
Trades and Labor Council of New
Orleans.

It was perhaps the most memorable
convention in the history of the Fed-
eration.

During the deliberations of the con-
vention a very splendid message was
read by President Green to the con-
vention from the President of the
United States, wishing good will and

Godspeed to the delegates and to the workers of the nation, and imploring the convention to do everything possible to bring about peace between the factions of Labor now existing in our country. The convention was addressed by the Secretary of War, Mr. Henry Stimson; by the Secretary of Labor, Miss Frances Perkins, and by many other distinguished national characters, including ex-Governor John Wynant of New Hampshire, who is now Director of the Labor Office, formerly of Geneva, Switzerland, but now located in Montreal, Canada, because of the war in Europe. Perhaps the most outstanding address of the whole convention from an educational and practical standpoint was that delivered by Archbishop Joseph Francis Rummel of New Orleans, who also delivered a sermon the previous Sunday to the delegates to the Convention, at the Cathedral. All delegates of every denomination were invited and many attended the service. By a unanimous vote of the convention, the address and sermon were printed in full in the proceedings. E. A. Jamison, delegate from the Canadian Trades Congress, made a fine impression on the convention, explaining conditions in Canada.

The convention was also honored by a Fraternal Delegate from the British Trades Union Congress, Sir Walter Citrine, who is the Secretary of that Congress. Sir Walter is indeed at any time educational and interesting, but his description of the conditions in Europe, and especially in England, surpassed in eloquence and sincerity anything that had ever been heard in any convention of Labor. His manner of explaining conditions under which the workers and the people generally of England were living, suffering, enduring, and holding up their courage, brought tears to the eyes of many of the women who were visiting the convention. It was a picture of reality which was never before painted in language or in writing, and those who heard it will never forget this wonderful address.

Your delegates were appointed on the usual committees, so that we were continuously working, watching and guarding the interests of our organization.

In accordance with the laws of the Federation, the General President reported to the Executive Council that at the recent convention of our International Union the word "stablemen" had been stricken from our title and the word "warehousemen" inserted. The General President asked that the change of title be approved by the American Federation of Labor. The Executive Council approved the request and the action of our convention in this respect. The Council's report was submitted to the convention and in turn to a committee, and certain organizations appeared before the committee asking for explanations, and asking further what the word "warehousemen" covered. Your delegate appeared before the committee and made explanations which were satisfactory to all parties concerned. The committee reported favorably on that part of the Executive Council's report and the report of the committee was adopted unanimously by the convention. This places the final stamp of approval on the change of our title. Other organizations do not do these things but we believe in living to the laws of the Federation to the letter and to all decisions rendered by the Federation. A great deal of argument and misunderstanding could be avoided if other International Unions would adopt the same legal course.

There were no questions involving our jurisdiction coming before the Federation in view of the fact that no action was considered on the Brewery Workers due to the fact that at the last convention of the Federation

it was decided that the charter of that Union be suspended unless they complied with the decision of the previous conventions. During the year the charter was not suspended because the Brewery Workers had brought injunction proceedings against the Federation. When the decision of the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia is handed down the question of suspension will be given further consideration by the Executive Council. There were fewer jurisdictional disputes before this convention than in any convention in recent years. This is due to the fact that the Building Trades has set up machinery for endeavoring to adjust jurisdictional disputes, although the machinery has not been entirely successful. They are, however, making progress. The dispute between the Machinists and the Carpenters over millwright work did not come before the convention. It is expected that conferences between those two organizations will obtain just as soon as the case in the Federal Courts against the Carpenters is acted upon in the city of St. Louis.

The salaries of the President and Secretary of the Federation were raised eight thousand dollars each, by a two-thirds vote of the convention. There was some discussion on this matter. The per capita tax of the Federation was changed from one cent to two cents for a period of one year. The assessment of one cent per month per member was eliminated. This was done because of the raise in the per capita tax. This action by the convention takes from our International Union two cents each month per member, which leaves us only twenty-eight cents per member on which to run the International Union. Your General President, being a member of the Committee on Laws, was somewhat opposed to this procedure because of its tendency to reduce our revenues, but upon being assured that the matter would only obtain for one year at this time, unless continued by other conventions, your delegates consented to the change in the law. All of the members of the Executive Council were reelected without opposition. Two vacancies were filled in the Executive Council at its meeting in September. The vacancies were filled by the election of Harvey Brown, President of the Machinists' International Union, and William Birthright, President and Secretary of the Barbers' International Union. Those two appointments by the Executive Council were confirmed at this recent convention.

The most spirited contest of the convention was that of the selection of the next city in which the convention is to be held. There were five or six cities candidates for the next convention; namely, Seattle, San Francisco, Boston, Detroit, and Providence. Memphis withdrew. Seattle was selected by an almost three to one vote over San Francisco or Boston, the two other principal contestants. Mr. Martel of the Detroit Federation of Labor, nominated Detroit and it received very little attention from the convention. John J. Kearney, a delegate from the Hotel and Restaurant Employes' International Alliance, made one of the most interesting speeches in the convention, containing wit, humor and history, when he placed the city of Boston in nomination. Because of the fact that Seattle has not had the convention since 1913 and Boston had one in 1930, your delegates voted for Seattle.

We, your delegates, participated in every session of the convention. We attended every conference or meeting of committees in which our organization might be involved. We met many representatives of our organization who represented Central Bodies and who were visiting the



EDITORIAL



(By DANIEL J. TOBIN)

WE WISH our membership a Happy and Prosperous New Year. For thirty-four years as your editor I have made the same wish and bade you good health and prosperity, peace and understanding, intelligence and education, patience and perseverance, resignation to bear the crosses with which we are confronted, and the gift of thankfulness for the benefits we have enjoyed during the past year and which may come to us during the coming year.

It has been a great year for our International Union; not only great in membership and finances but in advancement and in a better understanding with our employers, our government, and with our people as a whole throughout the nation. We have served well the public in handling the millions of tons of commerce during the past year. We, our membership, are the connecting link from point to point, from state to state, from industry to industry. The truck drivers of the nation, including all of our branches, which takes in milk drivers, bakery drivers, coal drivers and others, come in contact daily with perhaps more than twenty million people. It is our job to spread the light of hope and encouragement to those who are discouraged, and above all to spread the light of organization amongst those coming under our jurisdiction. Every time you encourage a non-union driver to become a member you are doing yourself and the people of our country a service, but above all you are rendering a deed beyond value to the individual whom you encourage to become a member. During the past year we have increased our membership substantially and increased our defense fund to protect us against strikes or lockouts. We have held a convention which was perhaps the most outstanding of its kind ever held in this or any other country. Not only did we have a large, highly intelligent delegation, numbering over sixteen hundred, with one thousand visitors, at our convention, but we were honored by a most memorable address by the head of the greatest government in the world, President Franklin D. Roosevelt. Who, that was present on that eventful, memorable September 11, 1940, can ever forget that impressive, historical visit and address? Many of us can remember the days that are past, when we were practically on the lowest rung of the ladder of life insofar as employment and working conditions were concerned. To have advanced to a point where we are as a whole throughout the year the best paid workers in the country, and to be honored by being selected by the head of our government for a personal contribution to our advancement in a special address, is something that only time and history will properly evaluate.

Another outstanding event was the fact that we rewrote and reconstructed a straggling constitution under which we have been working for several years past, and we have clarified and strengthened that constitution so that we are now in a position to defend our actions in the courts of the land.

Also at this writing, at the end of the year, I might state that unemployment has been substantially reduced amongst our membership during the past year. How happy it is for us! How we should rejoice! We are ungrateful unless we are thankful that at this, the beginning of the

year, we are privileged to sit in peace in our homes, with our families, as free men; especially when we consider the destruction of human lives in nearly all the countries of the world except our own. In your mind's eye come with me to Berlin, that once famous city of the Trade Union Movement, and witness today the conditions obtaining, with the Labor Movement destroyed, the leaders exterminated, and the workers working unlimited hours with no wages except sufficient to live on, and that living now reduced to almost starvation. Or come with me to the streets of London and the headquarters of the British Trade Union Congress, where the leaders of Labor gather in the middle of the day. They dare not meet at night after the sun goes down. In secret they wonder and wonder what is going to be the end of their people in Britain. Already they have given to the government, without any interest charges, almost all of their funds. Already they have set aside their working hours in order to speed up munitions and machinery to save their little island of forty-four million people from the destruction of inhuman invaders. Already they have cut out almost entirely their beer and beef so that the soldiers, the aviators, those standing in the first lines of defense, may have a little more; and furthermore in order that they may make what they have on hand go farther, as Great Britain, which comprises England, Scotland and Wales, has to import enough to feed forty million of their people and their merchant cargoes are daily being sent to the bottom of the ocean. They are living in the continual fear of starvation. When they are through with their work at night they do not go to their little homes to rest in peace. They go to the shelters down under the ground. Many do not have shelters of their own. They enter the subways and lie on the concrete floors or on temporary benches or cots which are provided for them. What a picture! What misery! What suffering! And try, if you will, to understand the danger of disease, the insanitary conditions which are promoted by malnutrition obtaining from an almost exhausted food supply. And then ask yourself: Why is it that those good people are made to suffer, they who were civilized before our country was discovered by Columbus in 1492, whose history and heroism stand out in the history of nations as being the foremost in the advancement of justice and civilization. We are no better than they. It might have been us instead of them if it had been so ordained. No matter how strong one's faith is, one sometimes has to chase away from his mind the desire to rebel against the injustice of it all. And then look at your own fireside. You are living in freedom, in happiness, in safety. But some of you, in your ingratitude, in your blindness, refuse to be thankful. Had I the space and the time I could go on and on explaining to you why we have everything in life to be grateful for even though there are some clouds, some dark passages, some sickness amongst us.

On this, the first of the New Year 1941, let us pledge ourselves in secret to be thankful that we are citizens, trade unionists, of a great country, that we are not possessed of enough words to give expression of our thankfulness, to prove and promise that Unseen Power which protects all of us; we pledge ourselves in silent prayer to be better men and women during the coming year. God of justice and righteousness strengthen us and bless us and protect us from the dangers of life during the year 1941, and bring peace and contentment such as we enjoy, once again to the tortured, suffering people of Europe.

A Happy New Year!

LET IT BE distinctly understood here that the International President will not interfere or intercede with the federal government in behalf of any officer or local union that violates the law. The International Union has been charged with conspiracy only once by the federal government. That was a case in Washington, D. C., where our General Organizer Thomas P. O'Brien was indicted for conspiracy. This case resulted from a jurisdictional dispute between the Engineers and our people, where we refused to haul other materials to a building or buildings where trucks hauling ready mixed concrete were being manned and driven by engineers. We believed we were absolutely innocent of the charge of conspiracy and that we were only acting to protect our jurisdiction. Eventually the courts decided in our favor and against the government. The International Union will not be a party to any conspiracy on the part of local unions to shut off this, that or the other employer, or to protect, in violation of the laws, one employer above another.

I have endeavored to explain the law for years to our people. I have repeatedly said to the government: The International Union, if it does wrong, is willing to answer, but we will first have to be told by the courts that we are wrong. I have emphasized this statement: We have no intention of doing wrong or breaking the laws. If some of our local unions break the laws or are willfully and deliberately doing wrong after being advised to the contrary, or if they are found guilty of underhanded practices, the local unions must answer for themselves, defend their own cases. We have no funds in the International Union to defend local unions. The local unions refused in the convention to increase the revenue of the International Union for general organizing and other purposes. They, the mouthpieces of the local unions who were delegates, said: We can take care of our own affairs legally.

Many other individuals believe that because of the position of the International President in the public eye, he may intercede for them. To do so would be lowering the dignity of the office which the President holds, and it would be using that office to plead the cause of a local union or officers that deliberately and willfully violated the laws. If the General President has any influence it will be used, not to get jobs for individuals, not to get petty favors from the government, state or national, not to save men from jail if they have been guilty of wrongdoing, but to advance the cause of the entire organization or the Labor Movement by obtaining better wages and better hours and protecting that movement by helping towards the enactment of legislation beneficial to all of our members. An officer degrades his position when he runs to politicians for petty favors. That is the trouble with many of our local officers. They are seeking personal, petty favors for themselves or their relatives instead of working for our organization as a whole. When a politician buys you off by giving one of your friends a job, then he owes you nothing in legislation. The power and strength, the honor, the ability, the integrity of the Labor Movement and its officers was thoroughly demonstrated in the last general election. Cheap racketeers, the very insignificant few of them that exist and creep into the Labor Movement, are a menace to our people and they must be driven out, or else they will pull down the whole structure that we have given our lives to build up. This must not happen. The officers of our unions in many instances are getting too soft. This goes for Internationals as well as locals. In order to save their jobs they refuse to disagree with the wrongdoers. Eventually the wrongdoers, the guttersnipes from the underworld, will destroy such local and national officials.

My advice is that the only way to keep out of trouble during the coming year is not to willfully get into trouble, and if you are now "doing wrong," mend your ways; turn over a new leaf. Don't be a sucker and believe you can fool everybody, including the Government. The wisest, cleverest crooks get into prison. When you are inside tears of regret will not get you out. There is only one way to play the game—"squarely, honestly, honorably."

Never do that which will cause you to fear exposure. Have courage and fear not the cheap, thieving mussle-in-man. He is a coward at heart. See how the tough murderers in New York wilted when sentenced to the chair. The hired gunmen cried like yellow dogs. So be a man and attend your union meetings and help to drive out those that "don't belong." You know them. And above and beyond all, don't go home at night knowing you have done something detestable against your Union during the day. Only the good that men do lives after they are gone. Money is a curse if it is dishonest or stolen.

*"No star has ever set that once was seen;
We always may be what we might have been."*

This is a New Year so forget the past; if you have made mistakes, profit by them. Begin again now, in this glorious United States, 1941, and when it ends December 31, I promise you that you will rejoice, you will be glad, because you will be clean; you will be a man again; you have overcome your weakness. He that is without sin let him cast the first stone. Remember Magdalen.

THIS is disagreeable and unpleasant information to convey to our membership but we do so for the purpose of educating them and as a warning to anyone who attempts to do wrong within our unions. Of course, out of very close to five thousand business representatives of our unions it is unfair to expect that all of them would be exactly one hundred per cent right and honest, as they are expected to be and as they promise when taking their obligation of office. If now and then we have a black sheep appear in our great big, hard-working, energetic family of trade union representatives, it is not surprising. The latest is Anthony Sasso, former Business Agent of Local 863, Commission, Butter and Egg Drivers and Porters, of Newark, New Jersey, who has been sentenced to from three to five years in prison for wrongdoing. Common Pleas Judge Van Riper at the time of passing sentence, stated as follows:

"Sasso, you have entered a plea to two indictments charging you with conspiracy. The substance of these charges to which you thereby admit your guilt is that, as a result of the power you have in the union over men who work, and work hard for a living, you have shaken down employers, have extorted them, have caused them inconvenience and financial loss.

"I suppose there will be an attempt by you or some of your cohorts to make yourself look like a martyr to Labor. But, instead of being a martyr, to use an everyday expression, you have sold the labor which you represented down the river.

"The men you represent are as a whole hardworking men, who must work very hard for a living. They trusted their future welfare, their working conditions, and their wages to you. And, instead of giving the best you had to them, you sold them out. For that you are entitled to no consideration whatever.

"The prosecutor and his staff prepared a case against you apparently so ironclad that you have come into court and decided to plead without attempting to go to trial."

Will our membership and our representatives fully understand and follow out the advice so often given in the columns of this Journal, that you must play the game honestly and right? Otherwise you will find yourself in trouble. Even though some escape being caught for a short time, their conscience continuously keeps them in a condition of

mental suffering. In accordance with our constitution adopted unanimously by our recent convention, Sasso must be expelled from membership in the organization. If the local union fails to do so the local officers may be expelled by the International Union and the local suspended and a new union organized; and all those failing to carry out the constitution, especially the officers, shall be refused membership in the newly organized local, or in any union of the International.

While we sincerely regret the stain on our name by one black sheep within our enormous fold, our great membership, we are not ashamed to publish it, because in any large gathering or organization, even within the church, there are, unfortunately, a few black sheep, and we trust this will be a warning to any others that may believe they can beat the game. The one in half a million, like Sasso, who goes wrong give material to the "Peglers" who see only the wrong in unions.

WHEN France built its Maginot line of solid concrete extending along the Rhine, facing Germany, they thought they were absolutely safe, and that this concrete wall was impenetrable. But they did not figure on Germany trampling on the rights of all other weaker nations and going around the end of the Maginot wall. Germany trampled on Holland and Belgium and got into France as a result of breaking all of its solemn and binding promises and obligations with those weaker countries. It would be just the same as if in civil life we had no law to govern us and the strong monster desiring the home or possessions of a weaker individual, just trampled on his rights and forcibly entered his home and took what he had. It is bringing back again the days of savagery, through might and power. The caveman overcame his adversaries because he had the better weapons and the greater strength. In every instance up to now Germany disregarded its obligations, its promises, its treaties. It broadcast solemn and binding statements regarding the rights of other smaller nations, that such would be respected. Perhaps this may be considered justified by the Germans, but civilization will not justify such proceeding, and whether it takes twenty, fifty or one hundred years, the Germans will pay for their slaughtering of the innocents and their breaking of all binding and solemn obligations by trampling on the rights of innocent people. Caesar in his days of glory in Rome, conquered his enemies with power and might, but the Caesars had some excuse. In those days, two thousand years ago, civilization had not advanced very far. The people of Holland, Poland, France and the other nations, will just live and work under the lash for awhile, but with every lash and every punishment they will be storing up hatreds against the Germans. The conquerors by aggression and force, who break all their human, binding agreements, may bask in the sunshine of conquest for a few years, but just as surely as the sun rises and sets, history will repeat itself and the conqueror will be conquered and suffer in the future.

It is useless now to cry over what might have been. In other words, there is no use in locking the stable after the horse is stolen, but the Allied nations blundered so badly that it is almost pitiful. Institutions and men and critics sometimes find fault with Labor for making its mistakes, but the mistakes made by England, France and Belgium and the other countries that won the last war are so enormous and glaring that it is impossible to understand that intelligent men, representing great nations, could have so badly blundered. First, Germany could have been stopped at the time she was arming along the Ruhr valley, and there is where it began. Before that, however, Germany broke every one of its solemn and binding agreements entered into by the Treaty of Versailles. It is possible that the peace treaty might have been too harsh, but when Germany admitted that it could not carry out its agreements, then the Allies, England and France, should have placed an army inside of Germany and found out for themselves whether or not the Germans could keep at least part of their signed contract. The Allies accepted Germany's promises and then permitted Germany to break every promise, especially in the payment of indemnities, and the moneys they should have paid, as per the contract, to the Allies, was used to rearm Germany, which rearmament eventually destroyed the Allies. Just as soon as the conquerors of the World War allowed Germany to deviate from its agreement without taking control of Germany, then the German leaders under Hitler started to move step by step until they first overcame Austria. Its president was murdered. Then Czechoslovakia; and Poland; Holland and Belgium. They practically destroyed the civilization of Europe. Of course Hitler found it easy to enter Germany

because the Germans were suffering, as they should suffer, as a result of the World War. The conquered nations always must pay the price of defeat, whether it is justified or not. The British and French statesmen believed that unless Hitler and Mussolini got control there would be revolution, leading towards Communism, in those countries, and therefore they closed their eyes to the procedures. Much as we detest Communism, it would not or could not be much worse than what we have now. And again, Hitler breaking all his solemn and binding promises and statements, linked up with Communism in his agreement with Russia. Before he gets through he may enter into an agreement with Japan to divide Asia, and then we will have three distinct and opposite destroyers of humanity forming a band to destroy what there is left of our civilization. Our only hope—and it is a forlorn hope—is that perhaps the Dictators may fight amongst themselves. The masses of the German people were absolutely helpless. They did not know where to turn or what to do. They are not so much to blame.

Then again, we had a condition in France that was disgusting; eleven or twelve different parties fighting amongst themselves in the legislative halls of France. Communism, Socialism, and every other kind of ism found a welcome in France, and we found the French people instead of building their armaments, fighting amongst themselves to such an extent that every other week there was a change of government. It is the same old story—"A house divided against itself cannot stand." Labor divided against itself will surely fall. Our local unions wrangling and fighting amongst themselves cannot succeed. I was in France a year ago and it was difficult to understand how they could run the country because of so many bitter disagreements. As I have said repeatedly in the columns of the Journal, the labor movement of France was not a real labor movement; it was a political movement, mostly under Socialist or extreme control. Living conditions in Paris a year ago were lower and less expensive than at any time within the past thirty years. Whenever they felt like creating some excitement they would call a general strike, and in the general strike leadership was ignored. After three or four days of tying up everything they would go back to work and no one knew anything about any kind of settlement. It isn't any wonder that the far-seeing, shrewd, unprincipled leaders in Germany across the line made headway, continuously plotting and planning to destroy a country divided against itself.

In England the government got into the hands of the smug, comfortable, rich, Conservative Party, headed first by Stanley Baldwin, a fine, rich manufacturer, who knew how to make money but disagreed with labor; and then into the hands of Chamberlain who believed that everything in this world could be settled without a cross word, and that we could trust and believe every man in any country who spoke, or claimed to speak, for his country. Baldwin first and then Chamberlain belonged in a country or in a world which we only read about but which we do not experience in our present civilization—a world that cannot do wrong, where men are all highly honorable and trustworthy. We are living in no such world; we are living in a world of cruelties and deception, with double-crossing everywhere, dishonorable men, blinded by selfishness and ambition, denying justice except that obtained by power and might. Neville Chamberlain would make a first-class farmer, running his farm hands, or laying down the law to a number of school teachers of the days of Charles Dickens. Every promise that the representatives of the government of Germany made to England was broken. Any man or any institution can double-cross you once and break their word of honor. They may deceive you. But you are guilty of being brainless if you allow them to do the same thing the second time. The pity of it all is that even we, who are separated from the madness and slaughter of Europe, brought about by blundering statesmen who were asleep on the job—yes, after we had won the war in 1918 for those Allied nations—I repeat, the pity of it all is that we too will suffer economically, which may reduce our standards of living, because the battleground of the victors, Hitler and his associates, will be world markets, which they will endeavor to control, and undoubtedly will be able to control in many instances, due to the fact that labor, receiving only the wages of slaves will be able to defeat us in any of the open markets that are left. If this slaughter of prices, destroying our markets, does obtain, it seems to me that our government must endeavor to live within itself and prohibit the entry of manufactured goods turned out by the formerly free inhabitants of the countries of Europe that are now chained to their dungeons, subject to the rules of monster dictators. We must keep up our courage in this country. We who love freedom are depressed at the conditions "over there." To see our brother trade unionists

destroyed, many of whom we knew and respected, put in concentration camps or worse, grieves us deeply, but we must "hold on." The Mad Monster Murderers of Europe "must not pass!"

WE DO NOT want to continue the national political campaign indefinitely. We have refrained from gloating over our victories or what transpired. During the campaign your Editor and President made several addresses and in each instance he was very careful not to make any statement that would leave any bitterness after the campaign had ended. It is well for all of us to understand that the Labor Movement must go on no matter who is elected. It is, however, a part of our solemn duty, in order to be helpful to Labor and to the people who elected us, to do everything in our power to return to office those who are friendly to our cause and to our Labor Movement. In the last campaign we only complied with this solemn and binding duty, which was the unanimous action of our convention. To do otherwise would make us unfit to represent our International Union, and we would not be true to our people. Generally speaking, we did not endorse any particular party. We endorsed candidates, those who had proved to be friends of ours or those whom we believed would carry out their pledges to Labor. Those who were victorious in the election owe their victory to the organized workers, whose advice and leadership was adopted at the polls by the millions of unorganized toilers. It is safe to say that ninety-nine and one-half per cent of the organized workers of the nation supported the present head of our government for re-election. I dread to think of what would happen to Labor were the reactionaries who were candidates returned to office. There is a general feeling now that Labor is going too far, and already there are rumblings in Congress of checking Labor by legislation, and when the new Congress meets after the first of the year it is possible that the enemies of Labor in the House and in the Senate may institute legislation aimed to check or retard Labor. Especially will this legislation point towards compulsory arbitration before strikes can obtain in anything pertaining to employment in the establishments turning out the required material or machinery for National Defense. There is also some danger of our people going too far in calling strikes dealing with interstate commerce, without going through the proper channels and laws of the International Union. Our membership should fully understand that the railroad brotherhoods cannot call a strike without first submitting the entire question to a government tribunal for investigation and awaiting their findings; and this can only take place after all negotiations have ended between the railroad brotherhoods and their employers. We too are engaged extensively in interstate commerce, and our business agents who call strikes here, there and everywhere without consulting even their own union, are in danger of being checked up for their procedure; and worse than this, they are in danger of adding fuel to the fire now being lighted in the Congress which may force down their throats compulsory arbitration. Of course the instances I refer to are very, very rare and only occur where we have business agents who are drunk with power and believe they are a law unto themselves. Ninety-nine per cent of our representatives observe the laws and refrain from premature action. Then we have crooked employers who chisel on their contracts. We in this office should not worry much about what happens to the business agent who violates the laws made by the International Union dealing with strikes and other matters. But the pity of it is that such actions bring injury to the International Union, and the good that the ninety-nine per cent do in observing laws is forgotten by the act of the one individual who breaks the laws. I have repeatedly advised our people to guard well their statements in dealing with strikes. Nearly all of our large offices have their telephone wires tapped. I have also eternally advised our people to be careful and not break the laws; that we are under Federal control and jurisdiction. Nearly all of our people have followed my advice. There are a few, however, who believe they are so clever, so tactful, so powerful, that they can cheat the law, defy the constitution of the International Union, and hoodwink the General President by excuses and alibis. In some instances those men have found themselves in serious trouble. Recently we have had some experiences with some of our officers in New York City on this point, and today, when it is too late, they deeply regret the fact that they did not follow the advice and instructions of the International Union. We have one in St. Louis who has been in trouble recently with the Federal Government, where a fine of twenty-five hundred dollars was imposed upon the business agent and the trucking firm involved;

and a working agreement that gave certain special protection or favors to the trucking concern had to be cancelled. The business agent involved was forced to retire from his position. Personally I believe that the business agent had rendered splendid service to the local union in the past, and in reality the writer regrets this episode. However, it should be a warning to our other people throughout the nation, because we have in isolated places one or two individuals who are doing things that are not just right. I repeat now for the benefit of our membership, there must be no interference with a truck entering a city to deliver goods if the driver is a bona fide member of our organization. Railroad engineers do not take a man off the job when he enters New York if he holds membership in a local union in Buffalo. This does not mean that we should not continue to organize and to appeal intelligently to non-union men who are driving trucks and entering into our cities. As far as I can understand the law, we may, after going through the proper channels in accordance with our constitution and being given permission, refuse to handle goods hauled by non-union truck drivers.

The purpose of this editorial is to again renew my urgent advice to our local unions and to our business agents and representatives. Examine your conscience; look into your private and public affairs in reference to the union; and let this sink into your mind, that you cannot cheat or break the laws and get away with it, morally, financially, or otherwise. You know whether you are doing right or not. There are others also who know whether or not you are playing the game fair and observing your obligation to your union, looking after the interests of the members, not defrauding or cheating them, or doing anything which is in violation of our International constitution.

I PUBLISH below a letter sent to the President of the United States by Senator Pepper of Florida. This is for the information of our membership. All of these things help to spread and advance the good name of our organization. Every act of every officer brings either disgrace or help to our general membership. Dave Beck has been maligned and crucified by an untruthful press for doing nothing except endeavoring to carry out the orders of the International office, to further the cause of those coming under our jurisdiction, and to organize the unorganized. Very seldom is there anything good written about a labor official who does his work as it should be done. Of course those who do nothing never are liable to censure. Only those who are out in front fighting for the membership against unscrupulous employers—those only, I repeat, have to pay the price of misunderstanding and willful abuse from the writers of the nation. Therefore we publish this letter, which is a tribute to all of our people in Seattle who participated in the reception to this one hundred per cent friend of the Trade Union Movement, United States Senator Pepper of Florida.

November 25, 1940.

Honorable Franklin D. Roosevelt
President of the United States
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. President:

I do not want the election to fade in vividness to all of us without telling you about how much, to my personal knowledge, Dave Beck did to help us carry the West.

I visited successively California, Oregon and Washington, and later the mountain states. In Washington alone, Dave had 7,500 people in the Seattle Auditorium and a radio hook-up for me which went to 30,000 people assembled in halls all over the state, rendered by Dave's Teamsters organization. He did similar things in most of the West. I found him a real man.

I just wanted to give this little bit of testimony and say that I sincerely hope that you will, in every possible way, bring men like Dan Tobin and Dave Beck as much as possible to the front of Labor in the United States. They both have not merely helped Labor; they have educated it not only to its opportunities but to its responsibilities. With good wishes, I am,

Sincerely yours,

CLAUDE PEPPER,
United States Senator.

I AM publishing below a letter received from Local 611, Bread, Cracker, Pie, Cake and Yeast Wagon Drivers' Union, of St. Louis, Missouri. This letter was written to me by the Secretary-Treasurer of that local union in connection with an invitation to be present at their Twenty-fifth Anniversary Banquet. Unfortunately I will not be able to be present on the date mentioned because I have to attend a meeting of the Executive Council of the National Building Trades Department, of which I am a member, on very important matters. I might state, however, that when I became President of the International Union, and for many years afterwards, the Bakery Drivers of St. Louis were a part of the Bakery and Confectionery Workers' International Union, as were several other local unions that are now affiliated with us. I well remember the night I went to their meeting in St. Louis on a mission asking them to affiliate with our International Union in accordance with our jurisdiction granted to us by the American Federation of Labor. There are very few now living in that local union who were present at that meeting on that evening. I was received courteously and given a reception from real trade unionists, but I was regarded almost with suspicion. Those members at that meeting were slow and careful of their procedure. The International Teamsters' Union, while making progress, did not have the name or reputation it now enjoys. We inherited many displeasing episodes from our predecessors and for some years after I became President, all of those local unions of teamsters in St. Louis were in an independent union outside our International, which was called the United Teamsters of America. At any rate, after careful deliberation and believing that the General President was making some progress in the International Union, they decided to apply for a charter and affiliate with our International Union and obey the decisions of the conventions of the American Federation of Labor in regard to our jurisdiction. Years have passed and all that is left of those disturbing and discouraging days is a memory, but we publish below this letter, which shows the fulfillment of the promises I made them and which proves that they made no mistake in affiliating with our International Union. This letter speaks volumes for the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. If only the Brewery Workers would do likewise—obey the decisions of the American Federation of Labor and not be taking us into court defending ourselves and wasting the money of both organizations. We know that they will progress as have the bakery drivers under our International Union. Also we point to the brewery teamsters' unions in Chicago, Cleveland, Seattle and elsewhere that are chartered by us. What progress they have made! Ask them whether or not they are satisfied with their affiliation with our International Union! Twenty years from now brewery drivers' unions that are refusing to obey the decisions of the conventions of the American Federation of Labor would, I am satisfied, make the same progress that is made by the local union whose letter I am publishing below.

BREAD, CRACKER, PIE, CAKE AND YEAST WAGON DRIVERS' UNION

LOCAL No. 611—I. B. OF T. C. W. & H. OF A.

St. Louis, Mo.

December 6, 1940.

Mr. Daniel J. Tobin, General President
222 East Michigan Street, Indianapolis, Ind.

Dear Sir and Brother:

Under separate cover I mailed you an invitation to our 25th Anniversary Banquet to be given in the Gold Room of the Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis on Saturday, January 25. While I know your time is well taken up with your duties as General President, I am hoping you can find time to be with us on that evening.

Local 611 has much to be thankful for since we left the Bakers' International Union September 25, 1915. At that time we had thirty-two members and less than ten dollars in our treasury. Today we have between 950 and 1,000 members, with a treasury of over \$160,000.00, not counting our personal property such as two automobiles and a first-class office that is a credit to any business house. Twenty-five years ago our wage scale was \$15.00 per week and commission, no vacations and no limit of hours worked. Today we have a guarantee of \$40.00 per week and commission, nine working days' vacation with full pay, and a ten-hour work day.

When we were a part of the Bakers' International we had a \$5.00 initiation fee (\$2.00 of which went to the medical examiner), and \$1.50 per month dues. We paid the International Union ninety-five cents per capita tax, though we did have a \$1.00 per day sick benefit and a \$300.00 death benefit. In transferring into the Teamsters' International Union they had no sick or death benefit; but we could not expect any on a fifteen cents per capita tax. So Local 611 began building up a sick and death fund of their own. We have increased this from time to time until today we pay our members a substantial sick donation for thirteen weeks in any one year, and a good-sized death benefit. We also pay an out-of-work benefit for ten weeks. We charge a pretty high initiation fee and we charge \$4.00 per month dues. I might add we have ample protection around our sick and death donations (covered in our by-laws) to prevent our members from cheating or defrauding us, and we do not hold in membership members who lose their positions on account of inability, dishonesty or excessive drinking. Another thing, our bakery bosses will not employ men who will not work steady. They also have a very strict medical examination which is a protection to us, so this sick fund has caused us no trouble.

I think you will agree with me that Local 611 has good cause to celebrate our 25th Anniversary as a part of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, and I trust you can find time to be with us on January 25.

With best wishes, permit me to remain

Fraternally yours,

(Signed) JOHN W. BAILEY,

Secretary-Treasurer.

You will note that when affiliated with the Bakery Workers' International Union they paid a per capita tax each month of 95 cents per member. They pay to us thirty cents per month per member. I desire to have our people in New York and elsewhere spread this news amongst the bakery drivers and brewery drivers who are not affiliated with our International Union.

I congratulate Local 611 and their officers for the splendid work they have done for their membership. They are a credit to the Trade Union Movement and to the organizations of Labor, and therefore we desire this information distributed. Other local unions not enjoying these conditions must remember that the members of Local 611 spread their advancement over a period of twenty-five years.

A HEALTHY, business-like union, properly conducted, should regulate its affairs so that a substantial amount will be added each month to its treasury, and it should build up a defense fund for a rainy day. Remember the International Union can only pay you strike benefits, because of the low amount you pay to the International in per capita tax each month. There are innumerable other expenditures that will be hung around the necks of local unions if they get into trouble. We come under so many interstate laws now because of our power and strength and influence, and we are subject to so many laws that we may encounter a great deal more litigation or court cases in the future than we have experienced in the past. Therefore, build up your local treasuries. It is indeed unfair and unjust but it is our law, that a local union receiving four dollars per month dues pays no more to the International each month than the local union receiving two dollars per month dues. The Labor Movement of our country must be run on a business basis. It was founded originally to improve the conditions of the workers. That object is still its goal, but unless our unions are run in a business-like manner, clean and free from rackets and from the domination of a half dozen men within the union, then the unions are a curse to the membership. Better no union than a union run by or for a few or a union unable to live within its income.

ANYTHING written in the columns of the Journal is not aimed directly at any local union or any local officer. The Editor sees in his mind's eye all of the locals of the International and writes advice or censure accordingly, for the benefit, the guidance, the instruction and the protection of the local unions. If local unions are guilty of some wrong they sometimes attribute the article to themselves, when the Editor perhaps

has no knowledge of what they are doing. It is true that we know a great deal more than many local union officers believe, because we are in contact with sources within the union and surrounding the union that furnish us with many facts and a great deal of information. We restrain or hold back our opinions until it becomes necessary to take decisive action, and when we decide to take action we cannot afford to stop until the job is finished and the union straightened out or expelled, and the officers who are the cause of the wrongdoing, deprived of membership.

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President Tobin's Report Continued From Last Month

Brewery Workers' Jurisdiction Case

Next in importance to the serious split in the ranks of Labor caused by the withdrawal from the American Federation of Labor of several International Unions because of the disagreement within the Federation, there has been no more astounding case than that of the Brewery Workers towards the American Federation of Labor, in which the jurisdiction of our International Union was involved. It has never before been known in the history of Labor in this or any other country that an Affiliated National Union, chartered and practically created by the American Federation of Labor, would take the parent body into the courts and endeavor to have the courts set aside the decision of the majority rendered in three distinct and separate conventions of the American Federation of Labor. Not only did the Affiliated Brewery Workers' Union cause an enormous expense to the American Federation of Labor, but if they are to eventually win out in the courts, the very foundation of the American Federation of Labor would be destroyed. Because if the Brewery Workers defeat the parent body, the right to make decisions on all important matters pertaining to Labor by the Federation would be destroyed or set aside by the courts.

Since our last convention we have disputed every inch of ground with the Brewery Workers in the courts and elsewhere in order to maintain our jurisdiction as awarded us by the conventions of the American Federation of Labor which has been so often and so plainly stated as follows: "All truck drivers and helpers come under the jurisdiction of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters."

The present status of the case is as follows: In the District of Columbia, when the case was first taken into the Federal Court by the Brewery Workers, a federal judge hearing the case decided in favor of the American Federation of Labor and stated that the Federation was perfectly within its rights in making jurisdiction decisions. The Brewery Workers, not satisfied with this decision and, instead of appealing from the decision to the Court of Appeals, asked for a rehearing and a new trial, on the grounds that they had new evidence. They were granted a new trial and a rehearing. The judge hearing the case this time set aside the previous decision and sustained the Brewery Workers, and decided against the American Federation of Labor. We then appealed to the Federal Court of Appeals in the District of Columbia, and presented our case. The hearing went on for several days. The court has taken an enormous amount of evidence, submitted orally and in briefs, under consideration, and is reviewing said evidence at this time. We expect a decision within a short time. We are hopeful that the decision will be favorable.

In the meantime, the General Executive Board of your International Union in its meeting in Miami, Florida, in February of this year instructed the General President to notify the American Federation of Labor that if the Brewery Workers were to be continued in affiliation with the American Federation of Labor, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters could not very well sit in convention or associate with them because of the fact that by their actions they had endeavored to destroy the Federation and your Union by asking the courts of the land to set aside the will of the majority of the convention of the American Federation of Labor.

We have, however, continued to pay our per capita tax amounting to \$8,000 per month to the Federation.

We have every reason to believe that the Federation will pay strict attention to our position in regard to our remaining in the same affiliated body with an organization that has used every means within its power to destroy both the Federation and this International Union.

Registration of Emblem and Label

For many years this International Union, having so many other matters to take care of, has failed to register with the Federal Government our International emblem. There are, however, a few states in which the emblem is registered, but only in a very few. Wherever the emblem is not registered, any other individual or organization could duplicate same and be free from legal action. Also, certain products, especially the brewery products that we were hauling, were placed on the "Unfair List" by the Brewery Workers and our membership and other employers were seriously inconvenienced. We also have jurisdiction over the manufacturing of dairy products, such as cheese, ice cream, butter and such food products. It was necessary for us to protect ourselves, now and in the future, to create a label based distinctly on our emblem. We did this and then, in accordance with the laws of the Federation, we applied for approval of said label to the American Federation of Labor. Our label, almost entirely a duplicate of our emblem, was approved by the American Federation of Labor and then by the Label Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor. We then engaged patent attorneys in Washington and proceeded to have our emblem and our label approved by the Patent Office of the Federal Government and registered in each state in the Union. The Patent Office of the Federal Government has approved our emblem. Our label, however, has been objected to by the Brewery Workers, although it in no way resembles the Brewery Workers' label. It seems the Brewery Workers just take special delight or pleasure in causing us annoyance and expense, and in doing so they most lavishly spend their money with lawyers. The expense and inconvenience involved as a result of the action of the United Brewery Workers and their lawyers have delayed final action by the Patent Office in Washington. However, we are proceeding surely, carefully, and I believe successfully, in having all the requirements complied with and our emblem registered in every state of the Union and our label approved by the United States Patent Office.

The cost of this procedure will run up to ten or twelve thousand dollars, which is another example of increased expense for which our convention made no provision. We are thoroughly convinced, however, that it is money well expended and that this procedure is absolutely necessary to protect our emblem and our label from infringement and duplication by other Unions or independent organizations as time goes on.

The approval by the Government of an emblem endures for a term of eighteen years.

Our Progress Since Last Convention

In the last convention of the International Brotherhood, held in Portland, Oregon, our total membership was 135,000. Our membership for the first six months of the year 1940 will average near to 450,000. This is our membership in good standing. Undoubtedly there are at least 50,000 men who are two, three and four months in arrears who are members of our organization; so that it is safe to say that there are today in our country 500,000 members in the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, although all of them are not paid up or in good standing, as stated above. But since our last convention we show here at least a gain of 300,000 members over that period; or, to be extremely conservative, let us say we had 135,000 members reported at our last convention, and I can guarantee to you, very conservatively, that we have now more than 450,000 members; which would make a total increase in our membership of 315,000 since our last convention.

Our financial balance as reported in our last convention was \$2,242,418. Our financial balance in this convention, at this time, is not less than \$6,000,000; making a total gain of somewhere around \$3,750,000. No other organization in the history of the American Labor Movement, in this or any other country, with what it had at its disposal, can show any such report as this or produce any such phenomenal, astounding betterment in its finances or in its general membership. I want to remind you that many organizations in the Labor Movement went backward in the last five years,

while we, this organization of yours, went onward and upward, increasing our membership threefold, and our defense fund is almost three times what it was in 1935, and we paid every legitimate claim and met every responsibility during that period.

(To be continued)

Report of Delegates to American Federation of Labor Convention

(Continued from page 3)

convention. We endeavored to do everything we could to properly guard and protect our International Union, and if we failed in any respect you can rest assured it was not for lack of desire on our part to perform the duties devolving upon us.

New Orleans and the State of Louisiana are not very well organized insofar as our trade is concerned. This is due somewhat to the fact that there are so many colored men driving trucks in this State and it is difficult to organize them; also the employers in our industry are bitter against the Trade Union Movement. However, we have placed an organizer down in the Louisiana district—Frank Prohl, who for many years was Secretary of the local union in Hammond, Indiana, No. 362—and he is gradually, slowly but surely making progress. In many of the other Southern States we also have reason to be encouraged even though slow progress is being made. Wages and working conditions are not what they are in the Middle West and other parts of the country, but they are far better than they were a few years ago. We, your delegates, see a brighter future in the years to come for those engaged at our craft in some of those now half organized Southern States.

Some of your delegates attended, as delegates, the conventions of the Building Trades Department and the Label Trades Department.

To attend this convention, to meet our own people from other states, to renew friendships with delegates from other International Unions, to listen to the educational addresses, is to us a great opportunity not only to help us in our work but to guide us in our respective districts and in our respective employments during the coming year. We appreciate the opportunity of having been selected to serve as the representatives of the International Union in this recent, great, historical convention of the American Federation of Labor. Our International Union, as you perhaps know, had the largest vote in the convention. Our International Union is regarded with respect and admiration by almost all delegates, and it was a great honor and joy to represent our Union. The word or pledge of your International is considered by other delegates as a guarantee of their achievements. When we remember a few years ago, the contrast is all the more astounding. The change has not been a miracle. The hard work and the honorable, energetic, clean service of our International and Local Officers are responsible for the conditions obtaining today in the American Federation of Labor conventions and in all other gatherings of labor men. Judging from our experience and what we have seen and witnessed, we urgently request that all of our representatives keep up the good work during the coming year. Don't rest now on your victories. There are other worlds to be conquered. Many International Unions are encroaching on our jurisdiction. Eternal vigilance and energy is the price we must pay for continued progress. And above and beyond all, respect the laws of the land and ever be mindful of the responsibility placed upon you as an officer and member of our union. Keep the record clean. Again we, your delegates, tender to you, our membership, and to those delegates who elected us to office, our sincere appreciation and thanks.

Respectfully submitted,

DANIEL J. TOBIN,
THOMAS L. HUGHES,
JOHN M. GILLESPIE,
FRANK W. BREWSTER,
JOHN O'ROURKE,
GEORGE WILSON,
ROBERT LESTER.

IF YOU are working every day try and save a little out of your pay. Remember there are days coming when you will be up against it financially, when you will be out of work. There is a pleasure in saving and there is no one who is working who cannot save something for the day that is surely coming when he will meet reverses.

— • —

I WAS a truck driver but I realize there is a time coming when men cannot, in advanced years, render the service that younger men can render. Quick action, power of concentration, perfect eyesight, ability to make up your mind in a split second, intelligence and honesty—those are the requirements today of a modern truck driver. We cannot hold men in the service forever, much as we would like to do so. Nature takes its toll. It is the law of life. Consequently younger men are coming into our movement and must be encouraged, and the doors of the union should not be closed against them. Don't misunderstand me. If we have an enormous number of men out of work, men who are capable, there is no use in adding to that list of unemployed by admitting new members.

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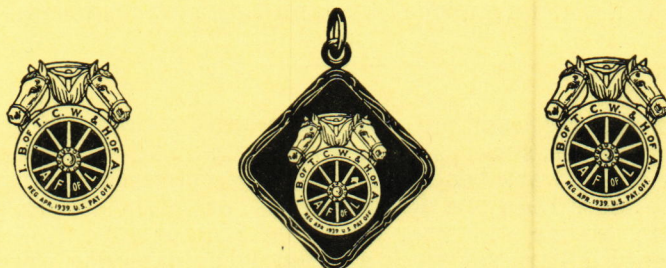
IT IS simply nothing less than poor business to establish within a union enormous benefits, such as out-of-work, sick and death benefits. For instance, an out-of-work benefit after the second week of unemployment should not be more than one dollar per day, or thirty dollars per month; just enough to provide a member with something on which to live. Unions that pay twenty dollars per week are simply encouraging unemployment. I believe in insurance but I do not believe in paying out, or guaranteeing to pay, one thousand dollars death benefit for two dollars or two dollars and a half a month. It can't be done, and unions that practice it, or allow it to be done, run the risk of compelling the International to appoint a receiver over their affairs. Our membership would be surprised to know that we have unions whose members pay three dollars per month or more dues and the union is not solvent. In other words, their expenditures are more than their income. No union can function under those conditions, and unless they change their practices and eliminate some of their monthly expenditures, including salaries, they cannot continue to serve the membership successfully, and the International should not close its eyes to such conditions. It is bad business practice. Any corporation that pays out more each month than it is receiving will eventually go in the hole, and the stockholders who have invested their money will lose it. The same is true of a union. The members are the stockholders. The Union is their property, their investment, in accordance with the International laws.

Official Magazine of the
**INTERNATIONAL
BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS,
CHAUFFEURS, WAREHOUSEMEN
AND HELPERS OF AMERICA**

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